4. *The Light Reflex.*—Both the qualitative and the quantitative reaction of the pupil to light varies according to the intensity of the stimulus. When the light is feeble the contraction is very noticeable, relatively to the previous state of dilatation. But this contraction does not last long. Almost immediately the pupil redilates but without reaching its original diameter. Thus we see alternate contractions and dilatations, a sort of struggle between the iris and the light stimulus. When the intensity of the light is much greater the phenomena are very different. Under these circumstances the contraction of the pupil is much more rapid, and the contraction continues without the alternate movements of contraction and dilatation observed when the light is feeble. These facts make it desirable to adopt a routine technic in pupillary examinations, examining in each case the reactions both to intense and to feeble light stimuli. The following points should be noted as a result of this examination: (1) The latent time or times separating the application of the stimulus from the beginning of the response; (2) the rapidity of the contraction; (3) the maximum contraction of the pupillary orifice; (4) the duration of the contraction. These various phenomena are only appreciable in a mild light, and such a light is best adapted for bringing out all the peculiarities of pupillary response. In certain cases, however, of pupillary paresis the subject should be examined in the full light of day and only under such conditions is one authorized to diagnose an absence of the light reflex.

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JAHRBUECHER FUER PSYCHIATRIE UND NEUROLOGIE

(Vol. xxiii, 1903, No. 3.)

1. The Results of the Electrical Examination in Progressive Paralysis and Dementia Senilis. Pilcz.
2. The Morphology of the Normal and the Pathological Spinal Cord and the Lateral Pyramidal Tract. Straussler.
3. The Nerve Cell Changes in Tetanus and their Interpretation. Sjoval.
4. Cerebral Syphilis. Probst.
5. Psychoses following Earthquakes. Phelps.

1. *Electrical Examination in Paresis and Senile Dementia.*—In a former paper Pilcz presented the data derived from the electrical examination, with graphic records of the muscle contractions in a certain number of acute mental cases. The present paper deals with the results of the examination of chronic cases, comprising 46 paretics and 8 senile dements. The expectation was that changes in the excitability of the peripheral nervous system would be found not because the cerebral changes which produced the disease would of itself lead to it, but that the whole organism in conjunction with the brain condition would carry with it changes in the peripheral nervous system and the muscular system as well. Results: Of the 46 paralytics 8 showed nothing abnormal. In 6 of them the examination was incomplete. In 32, or 80 per cent, there were changes in the electrical excitability found. The changes were for the most part in the lessening of the electrical excitability to both the galvanic and the faradic current. Of eight cases of senile dementia there were two normal.

2. An anatomical study not suitable for abstract.

3. *Cell Changes in Tetanus.*—This is a careful study of the microscopic appearances of the nervous system of a case of tetanus. A résumé of the previous work on the subject is first given. The sections were imbedded in paraffin cut very thin and stained with toluidin blue and erythrosin. The following results are noted by the author: The nerve

cell changes in tetanus consist in a change of the tigroid substance, probably of a chemical nature in connection with a turgescence of the cell. A peripherally lying nucleus and an enlargement of the nucleolus are sometimes observed. In addition to these changes a peculiar appearance is observed, especially in the tigrolytic cells and almost always in cells in which there was a peripherally lying nucleus. This change consisted in simple or jagged invagination of the nucleus. The direction of this process was toward the tigroid, which was the seat of the greatest change. These changes are to be considered as the expression of the tetanic excitability of the motor cells fully within physiological limits. The proof of this is the following: (1) These changes approach so nearly those which are produced experimentally; (2) the close relation between the clinical symptoms and the morphological findings; (3) there seems to be indicated a relation between the atomical appearances and the localization of the convulsions; (4) from a theoretical standpoint it is to be expected that the microscopical appearances would point to a high degree of activity. This explanation does not contradict the bacteriological fact that a union of the tetanus toxin takes place in the nerve cell. It is very probable that the toxin is not formed in the trophic substance that is the tigroid, but in a specific nervous substance which we are at present unable to demonstrate.

4. *Cerebral Syphilis.*—This is a study of a case of cerebral syphilis in which the central nervous system was studied histologically with great care. Especial attention was paid to the study of the path of the olives in the mesencephalon, to the anterior portion of the foot of the cruræ, the pyramidal tract, the pyramidal "*schleife*," the dorsal "*längsbündel*," and to the trapezoid body. The great mass of anatomical data make an abstract impossible.

5. *Psychoses and Earthquakes.*—Although the effects of earthquakes as a cause of the outbreak of various forms of neurosis have been often alluded to, the reports in the literature are very meager, the author finding but two cases. Three cases are reported which illustrate very well the development and the outcome of what may be termed the earthquake psychosis. The symptoms are much those of an acute psychosis with hallucinations, confusion, amnesia, sleeplessness and anxiousness. Recovery was very gradual. The cause of the symptoms is to be found in the sudden and violent alteration in static excitability, which causes by means of the violence of the shock far-reaching alterations in the normal psychical processes.

(Vol. xxiv., 1903, No. 1.)

1. Concerning our Knowledge of Certain Forms of Acquired Dementias. STRANSKY.
2. Experimental Investigation on the Origin of the Hypoglossus and of its Descending Branch. KOSAKA AND JAGITA.
3. A Contribution to our Knowledge of the Plexus Chorioideus in the Insane. PILCZ.

1. *Acquired Dementias.*—Dementia præcox and the secondary dementias are among the most debatable subjects in psychiatry. The author of this extensive paper sets himself the task of analyzing the symptoms which go to form the clinical picture of these conditions and testing them as to their frequency and permanency in the forms of insanity, with which they have for so long been identified. Sixty cases of dementias, together with many other cases studied at former times, make up the material upon which this study is based. Careful clinical histories are included in this paper. As the article consists in a discussion of these cases, no adequate abstract can be made.

2. *Hypoglossus Origin.*—An investigation of the origin of the hypoglossus which aims to give additional data on the following six points: (1) The fate of the hypoglossus nucleus after resection or tearing out of the nerves; (2) the hypoglossal nucleus in birds; (3) the relation of the true nucleus to the nuclei in the neighborhood; (4) the limitation of the origin of the hypoglossus to the same side; (5) the origin of the ramus descendans; (6) the muscular localization in the nucleus. The examination under the first heading gave such different results that the authors are inclined to believe that there exists not only a difference in animals of different species, but in two animals of the same kind, of the same weight and operated upon under the same conditions. For the second question, the medulla of pigeons, chickens and ducks was studied. It was determined that the hypoglossus of birds, as well as of vertebrates, is intended for the nerves of the same side, and is in connection with no other nerve. Roller's assumption that a part of the hypoglossus arises from the small celled nucleus is disproven. The Nebenkern of Duval was likewise shown to have no relation to the true nucleus. Under four, the uncrossed origin of the fibers is asserted. Under five, there are numerous facts which a comparative study of various animals have brought to light. The cells of origin in vertebrates of the descending branch of the hypoglossus are more or less posteriorly situated in order to push forward to the anterior horn. Under six, the following conclusions are noted: (1.) In man the hypoglossus nucleus consists of definitely limited cell groups; (2) certain groups of muscles of the tongue are represented by definitely limited cell groups.

3. *Choroid Plexus in the Insanities.*—This is a study in 13 cases of progressive paralysis; 3 of delirium acutum; 1 of amentia, a case of dementia following multiple cerebral lesions; 2 of delirium tremens, and one each of dementia, Korsakoff's psychosis, epilepsy, dementia senilis and melancholia. Among the changes found in the specimens examined are the following: A retrogressive metamorphosis of the connective tissue and the sand bodies. These are of so constant an appearance that their pathological significance cannot be doubted. The great increase of the cerebro-spinal fluid, the changes in the epithelial cells, the giant cells, the small cell infiltration and the appearance of pigment granules in the blood vessels are all to be seen in these preparations.

Sidney I. Schwab (St. Louis).

NOUVELLE ICONOGRAPHIE DE LA SALPETRIERE

(Vol. xvi, 1903, No. 3, May-June.)

1. A Case of Anencephalus. Brissaud and Bruandet.
2. Cervical Paraplegia Caused by a Glioma of the Cord, with Pachymeningitis. Spillman and Hoche.
3. Autopsy of an Acromegalic and Diabetic Giant. Launois and P. Roy.
4. Precocious Gigantism with Early Development of the Genital Organs. Hudovernig and Popovits.
5. Congenital Hypertrophy of the Hand. Ducrest de Villeneuve.
6. Alcoholism in Brittany. Apert.
7. L'Apothicaire, Picture by P. Longhi. Mariani.

1. *Anencephalus.*—An anatomical study of an anencephalus fetus of about seven months, weighing 250 kil. and 36 cm. long. The article is illustrated by photographs and a radiograph and numerous diagrams, showing the distribution of the cranial and spinal nerves. Much interesting data is given in this article, which cannot be abstracted.

2. *Cervical Paraplegia.*—Case of a young girl, nineteen years old, with a marked atrophy of the thenar eminence, hypothenar and interossei